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Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL
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Document Number: 1993KIGALI04007

Page: 1

Channel: n/a

Case Number: 200003723

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CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KIGALI 04007 101435Z
ACTION AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	AID-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00
	EB-01	EUR-01	OIGO-01	FDRE-01	HA-09	HHS-04	H-01
	INM-02	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	L-03	ADS-00	NSAE-00
	NSCE-00	OES-09	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-02	PRS-01
	P-01	RP-10	SIL-00	SNP-00	SP-00	SR-00	SS-00
	STR-16	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	RPE-01	CORE-00	/086W

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P 101433Z NOV 93
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5015
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L KIGALI 04007

STATE FOR RP, AF/C, AND AF/RA
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PAGE 02 KIGALI 04007 101435Z
AID FOR AF/EA AND OFDA
GENEVA FOR RMA AND AID
ADDIS ABABA FOR OFDA/FARNSWORTH
ROMB FOR WFP
YADUNDE AND BUJUMBURA FOR DATT

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
TAGS: PREF, PHUM, PREL, RW, BY
SUBJECT: BURUNDI REFUGEES: POPULATION STABILIZES

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L. MILLS
DATE/CASE ID: 19 NOV 2002 200003723

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL
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Document Number: 1993KIGALI04007

Page: 2
Channel: n/a

Case Number: 200003723

REF: KIGALI 03993

1. NUMBERS. UNHCR AND GOVERNMENT REPORTED TO DONORS 11/8 THAT THE INFLUX OF REFUGEES FROM BURUNDI APPEARED TO HAVE STABILIZED, WITH FEW IF ANY NEW ARRIVALS REPORTED. GOVERNMENT FIGURES STILL EXCEED 400,000; UNHCR CONTINUES TO USE PLANNING FIGURE OF 375,000 FOR RWANDA. GOVERNMENT CENSUS UNDERWAY.

2. PRIORITIES. DETERIORATING HEALTH STATUS OF REFUGEES FROM LACK OF SHELTER, PROPER SANITATION AND INADEQUATE FOOD RATIONS IS MAJOR CONCERN. ESTABLISHING WATER SYSTEMS, CONSTRUCTING LATRINES, AND RELIEVING CAMP CONGESTION ARE UNHCR PRIORITIES. URGENT NEEDS REMAIN IN ALL CATEGORIES OF RELIEF ITEMS INCLUDING BLANKETS (70,000), COOKING UTENSILS, AND GERRY CANS. (CHART SHOWING INDICATIVE FIGURES FAXED 11/9 TO RP). AIRLIFTS OF RELIEF MATERIALS FROM UNHCR AND DONORS CONTINUE.

3. SECTOR ASSESSMENTS. UNHCR SECTOR ASSESSMENTS
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 KIGALI 04007 101435Z
STILL UNDERWAY. FINDINGS, EXPECTED NO EARLIER THAN NEXT WEEK, WILL FORM BASIS OF PROPOSALS FOR UNHCR PROGRAM INTERVENTIONS.

4. FOOD. WFP AND UNHCR ARE UNDERTAKING JOINT ASSESSMENT TO DETERMINE COMMODITIES AND QUANTITIES NEEDED. WFP COORDINATOR TOLD GOVERNMENT AT 11/8 DONOR MEETING THAT IT NEEDS FORMAL REQUEST TO RESPOND.

5. PROTECTION. THE GOVERNMENT WILL ESTABLISH A SEPARATE CAMP (IN BUTARE PREFECTURE) FOR TUTSI REFUGEES WHO ARE AT RISK BOTH FROM OTHER (HUTU) REFUGEES AND THE LOCAL (HUTU) POPULATION. SO FAR ABOUT 500 PERSONS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED FOR THIS CAMP. RADIO AND OTHER REPORTS SUGGEST REFUGEES RETURNING TO BURUNDI TO COLLECT FOOD AND BELONGINGS ARE ENCOUNTERING MILITARY HARASSMENT. SOME REPORTEDLY RETURN TO RWANDA WITH GUWSHOT WOUNDS; SOME DO NOT RETURN AT ALL AND ARE FEARED DEAD.

6. CAMP STRUCTURE. SITE SELECTION SHOULD BE NEARLY

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 2

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL
Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 1993KIGALI04007

Page: 3
Channel: n/a

Case Number: 200003723

COMPLETE BY END OF WEEK, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TOLD DONORS 11/8. GOVERNMENT IS ESTABLISHING A HIBRARCHICAL REPORTING/MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE EXTENDING FROM PREFET TO CAMP LEVEL IN EACH OF THE FIVE AFFECTED PREFECTURES.

7. COMMENT: UNHCR IS PARTICULARLY WORRIED ABOUT THE SANITATION SITUATION WHICH IS A MAJOR FACTOR IN DECLINING HEALTH STATUS OF REFUGEES. WE SUGGEST USG CONTRIBUTION TO UNHCR BE DIRECTED TOWARD (NOT
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PAGE 04 KIGALI 04007 101435Z
EARMARKED FOR) IMPROVING WATER/SANITATION SYSTEMS FOR THE BURUNDI REFUGEES. HEALTH ITSELF, INCLUDING VACCINES AND MEDICINES, ARE BEING SATISFACTORILY COVERED BY THE MSF ORGANIZATIONS ON THE GROUND. THEY WILL WORK IN COORDINATION WITH CARE INTERNATIONAL AND OXFAM TO LINK WATER AND SANITATION SYSTEMS. END
COMMENT. FLATEN

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Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 3

UNCLASSIFIED